

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Examiner has acknowledged that claim 2 is allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The specification has been amended to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. Claim 1 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Claims 1 has further been amended to more accurately define the invention claimed.

Bonningue (US Patent No. 6,484,906) discloses a complex apparatus for dosing a product. The apparatus is a separate dosing nozzle that is fitted onto the open end of a container. When the piston in the dosing nozzle is next to the tabs 13, 14, 15, the dosing nozzle is closed and incapable of dispensing the content of the container. It is only when the piston in the dosing nozzle is urged past the openings between the tabs 13, 14, and 15, that the dosing nozzle is opened to dispense the content of the container. The dosing nozzle is incapable of operating as intended otherwise. The dosing nozzle has a flat "transverse wall 7" with a simple "dispensing hole 8."

Applicant's invention is a sliding piston opening means comprising a length of tube with one or more openings through part of the length. A sliding piston with a sealing diameter approximately that of the inside diameter of the length of tube is disposed within the length of tube and movable from a first closed position to a second open position next to the one or more openings in the length of tube, as shown in figures 3 and 4. The sliding piston opening means is affixed inside a compressible elongated tubular housing with a sealed end and an open end and with approximately the same inside diameter as the outside diameter of the length of tube. A fluid is enclosed within the compressible elongated tubular housing near the sealed end separated

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from the open end of the compressible elongated tubular housing by the sliding piston opening means thereby sealing the fluid within the compressible elongated tubular housing. The sliding piston opening means is operated by squeezing the compressible elongated tubular housing at or near the sliding piston to open and close a fluid path from the fluid to the open end of the compressible elongated tubular housing.

Applicant hereby submits that the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and the claim objection have all been overcome. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

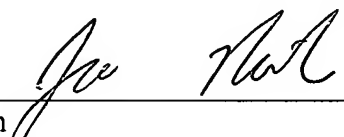


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